

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10744 261744Z

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 257

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10744

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINS, PINT, ASEC, UR

SUBJECT: WALK-IN INVOLVING SOVIET CITIZEN

1. ALEXANDER BRUNOVICH KURPEL, A SOVIET CITIZEN, WAS BROUGHT TO EMBASSY CONSULAR SECTION AT OPENING OF BUSINESS ON JULY 25 BY AMCIT DOUGLAS WEBB, FORMER EXCHANGE STUDENT WHO IS PRESENTLY WORKING ON TEMPORARY CONTRACT BASIS FOR EXHIBITS OFFICE IN COMMERCIAL SECTION OF EMBASSY. KURPEL HAS KNOW WEBB FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS, HAVING MET HIM IN A MOSCOW BOOK STORE. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF KURPEL'S VISIT WAS TO ASK CONSOFF TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO RECEIVE INVITATION TO EMIGRATE TO U.S. FROM "ESTONIAN EMBASSY" IN WASHINGTON. KURPEL CLAIMS THAT WASHINGTON-BASED ESTONIAN COMMUNITY HAS AGREED TO SEND HIM INVITATION, BUT THAT HE IS UNABLE TO RECEIVE MAIL FROM ABROAD OR TO PLACE OR RECEIVE TELEPHONE CALLS. CONSOFF TOLD HIM THAT EMBASSY COULD NOT ARRANGE FOR HIM TO RECEIVE INVITATION, AND SUGGESTED THAT HE AGAIN TRY DIRECT CONTACT WITH U.S.

2. KURPEL CLAIMS CLOSE PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE WITH CHILDREN OF SVETLANA ALLILUYEVA PETERS, PARTICULARLY WITH IOSIF GRIGOROVICH ALLILUYEV.

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KURPEL ASKED CONSOFF TO OBTAIN A COPY OF MRS. PETERS' BOOK "ONLY ONE YEAR", WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN SENT VIA GEORGE KRIMSKY HAD CONTAINED SPECIAL INSCRIPTION FOR HER SON IOSIF AND KURPEL. KURPEL SAID HE BELIEVED IT MUST BE AT EMBASSY LIBRARY AND SAID THAT HE NEEDED IT BADLY. CONSOFF TOLD HIM THAT TO BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE BOOK WAS NOT AT EMBASSY.

3. KURPEL CLAIMS WIDE ACQUAINTANCESHIP AMONG MOSCOW HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS, INCLUDING SAKHAROV. HE SAYS THAT HE WAS INTERROGATED BY KGB ABOUT KRIMSKY FOR 3 HOURS, 45 MINUTES ON JANUARY 22. HE CLAIMS THAT AFTER THAT INTERROGATION, HE WAS FIRST PERSON TO INFORM KRIMSKY THAT LATTER MIGHT BE ACCUSED OF ILLEGAL CURRENCY DEALINGS. KURPEL ALSO STATES THAT HE VISITED EMBASSY PREVIOUSLY IN 1973, AT WHICH TIME HE VISITED THE CULTURAL ATTACHE. (CULTURAL OFFICE HAS NO RECORD OF VISIT). HE CLAIMED IN ADDITION TO KNOW FORMER EMBOFF LEVITSKY.

4. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: ACCORDING TO HIS PASSPORT, KURPEL WAS BORN ON MAY 20, 1957 IN MOSCOW AND IS OF ESTONIAN NATIONALITY. HE CLAIMS HE WAS DISMISSED FROM TASS ON DECEMBER 2, 1975, BECAUSE OF RELATIONS WITH CHILDREN OF SVETLANA ALLILUYEVA PETERS. HE SAYS THAT KGB HAS ATTEMPTED TO DESTROY HIS REPUTATION BY ACCUSING HIM OF BEING HOMOSEXUAL AND SPECIFICALLY OF HAVING HOMOSEXUAL RELATIONS WITH IOSIF ALLILUYEV. KURPEL SPEAKS AND WRITES ENGLISH WELL.

5. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION, CONSOFF ESCORTED KURPEL FROM EMBASSY, NOTING NO UNUSUAL ACTIVITY BY MILITIA. TOON
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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